

SACO

SLAVIC AMERICAN CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

June 2016
Vol. #6



SACO

To inform and educate Slavic
Americans, as well as others, of
the Slavic Culture
and History

SAVE THE DATE!

SACO's JULY PICNIC



**SUNDAY
JULY 10, 2016**
at the
Corralitos Padres Hall
Event flyer & RSVP
invite will be mailed
out soon!
We hope to see you
there



New SACO Lapel Pins
available for purchase

1 = \$6.00

2 = \$10.00

Please contact:
Nikole Simmons
at

slavicamericanculturalorg.com
They would make great gifts!
Show your support and wear at
every event.

Lapel Pins will be on sale at
the July Picnic.

THE KALIFORNSKI SUMMERTIME FUN

Welcome By New President *Judy Hager*

Dear SACO friends,

Time seems to be flying by this year. This been a very busy year and it is only the 6th month. In February we had two major events. We had a reception honoring the Mayor of Dubrovnik, Andro Vlahusic, and City Manager, Igor Deranja. The Mayor is enthusiastically supporting our Student Ambassador Exchange Program. We hope to send the first students the summer of 2018. We also held our first S.A.E.P. major fundraising event. It was a great success and the committee is planning another event for October.

March was also busy as the Scholarship committee was busy distributing applications to the high schools and then reviewing the applications. The Events Committee was very busy planning the Spring Lamb Bar-B-Que.

In April we had the Spring Lamb Dinner at Notre Dame again. It was a very well attended event and we received many compliments.

Now it is June. The Scholarship Committee awarded 7 scholarships. 3 to Aptos, 1 to St. Francis, 1 to Santa Cruz, 1 to Scotts Valley and 1 to Harbor. There were no applicants from Watsonville or Pajaro Valley. You will meet them at the picnic.

The Events committee is busy planning the July Picnic at Padres Park. It is going to be a fun time for all the family.

I am really enjoying being your President. I know there a lot of changes and new ideas being discussed that are causing some concerns but we are attracting more younger members.

We all love SACO—it is in our hearts—and we want it to grow and thrive!

Vidimo se uskoro,
Judy



Dubrovnik Mayor Andro Vlahusić &
SACO President Judy Hager at the
signing of the Exchange Program
Agreement between our two cities

Pictures shared
by
Niki Simmons.
More pictures
inside this
issue



SACO & SAEP Committee Members
meeting with dignitaries & invited guests

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TREASURER'S REPORT— As of May 17, 2016

Prepared by: Susan Radin Gallagher



Beginning Balance as of 4/29/16 \$17,448.59

Income:

Lamb Dinner (deposited net income) 2,513.00
(income increased approx. \$600 from last year's event)

Misc.—Dues, left over food & plant money 347.00

Total: \$2,860.00

Expenses:

Christian Gold Audio 100.00

Judy Hager—Beer, etc. 146.02

Antonio Torres—pot washing 50.00

Knight's of Columbus—kitchen use 150.00

Maryann Bulich Schnitter—Food, BBQ items, etc. \$3,594.27

SACO Scholarship Acct.—100% from Lamb Dinner 300.00

Annamarie Dugger—coffee, plants & balloons 263.28

Corralitos Padres— refundable cleaning deposit for July Picnic 500.00

ABC—liquor license for July Picnic 25.00

Total: \$5,128.57

Ending Balance as of 5/17/16: \$15,180.02

.....
Membership: 167 members

Remembrances:

Lucille Rose "Gig" Papac Matiasovich Franusich

March 31, 2016

by Frank Savaria

SACO'S ANNUAL LAMB DINNER

April 30, 2016

The committee would like to thank the following for all of their support in making the Lamb Dinner a great success:

Dobler/ Kelly Families for the use of the Barbecue Pit
 Greg Pavlovich Delivery of Barbecue Pit
 Coast Produce for the Green Salad
 The Bulich Family Apple wood for Barbecue
 Nordic Naturals/ Rich Taylor Raffle Prize

Committee:

Judy Hager, Co-chairman
 Maryann Bulich Schnitter, Co-chairman
 Peter Kovacich
 Stephanie Bulich
 Jolene Vukasovich
 Annamarie Pavlovich Dugger
 Linda Pavlovich
 Suke Pavlovich
 Susan Radin Gallagher

Barbecuers:

Antone "Tony" Scurich
 Mike Scurich
 Stephen Millich
 John Kusanovich
 Christopher Hager
 Antone "Tony" Bulich, Jr.
 Peter Alaga

Volunteers:

Luci Basor
 Nikole Simmons
 John Vodanovich
 John Alaga
 Antonio Violich
 David Schnitter
 Sandy Jurach
 Marilyn Luksich Garbutt
 Diane Luksich Hergott
 Rich Hager
 Pam Kovacich
 Kayce Pavlovich
 Barbara Rider
 Bob Leonardich
 Tom Simmons
 GeriAnne Simmons
 Sharon Alaga
 Sylvia Kusanovich
 Diane Bulich
 Jelka Basor
 Russ Jeffries
 Antone "Tony" Bulich, III
 Linda Espejo

Katherine Hodges
 Laura Hodges
 Ava Totah
 Tim Livacich McKay
 Jane Parks McKay
 Yvonne Hager
 Nevenka Radich
 Zarko Radich
 Kerry Stringari
 Betty Bobeda
 Lynne Hodges
 Michael Hodges
 Mark Hager
 Pat Buratovich Emmons
 Mary Lou Jaquith



SACO Spring Lamb BBQ



April 30, 2016

\$25 Dinner ticket



Photos contributed by:

Antonio Violich

Mike Hodges

GeriAnne Solano-Simmons

STUDENT AMBASSADOR AND EXCHANGE PROGRAM

On Saturday, February 27, the first annual Fundraising Dinner for SACO's Student Ambassador and Exchange Program was held in Watsonville at the Knights of Columbus Hall. By any measure, the event was a spectacular success. The sold out dinner was reflective of the commitment of our SACO members to develop a permanent student exchange program between Central California and the Republics comprising the former Yugoslavia. Members and guests from San Benito, Monterey, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz Counties enjoyed a memorable event which helped to start our student sponsorship fund.

Highlights from the event include Jolene Vukasovich's generous \$2500.00 donation for the very first named exchange student sponsorship. Our silent auction items from businesses and individuals supporting SACO's efforts allowed for lively and enthusiastic bidding. Peter Kovacich was our honorary host.



This great dinner capped off a historic visit between Dr. Andro Vlahušić, the mayor of Dubrovnik and Mr. Igor Deranja, city manager of Dubrovnik, Croatia and SACO's leadership, which took place on February 13, 2016. Hosted at Driscoll's corporate offices, Dr. Vlahušić and Mr. Deranja declared the meeting to be "very successful". They immediately committed \$20,000.00 from Dubrovnik city funds to help support Croatian students who will come and experience educational opportunities here.

Our next Student Ambassador and Exchange Program event will be held in October of 2016. Please watch for upcoming announcements!

DISCOVER YOUR INNER COWBOY OR COWGIRL!

Eight box seats for the California Rodeo immediately above the shuts. "The best seats in the house", on Friday evening, July 22, 2016. Have dinner before the show at the VIP BBQ on the Directors' Patio with western music and an open bar. You and your friends and family may never have the opportunity to get these seats again. You will be in awe when you arrive at your seats and you will remember your experience forever. Parking passes for two cars are included. Donated by SACO members Russ and Barbara Jeffries and Eric and Teresa Del Piero.



The sale price is \$800.00 and every dollar will be used to support SACO's Student Ambassador and Exchange Program. Contact Teresa Del Piero if you are interested in purchasing this package at #831-905-5547.

More photos of visiting Dubrovnik dignitaries



L-R: S. Cruz Co. Supervisor Caput, Dubrovnik City Manager Deranja, Watsonville Mayor Hernandez & Dubrovnik Mayor Vlahušić



SACO & SAEP committee members meeting about the sister program

Travels with Luci

Will return in our Winter edition. Luci Basor and Niki Simmons are traveling throughout Europe, Croatia and Montenegro during this summer and will write about their adventures. "Idi sa Bogom" (go with God)"



And, speaking of the Basors'

We would like to congratulate Ivo Basor, son of SACO members John and Jelka Basor and brother of Luci on his graduation from San Jose State University this year with a degree in Communication Studies. Not only was he an outstanding student but also an important member of the Spartan's Men's Basketball Team. So proud of one of our next generation of SACO members.

COLLEGE ATHLETICS



Terrell Lloyd/SJSU Athletics

Watsonville alum Ivo Basor is finishing out his senior season with the San Jose State Spartans as a key cog in head coach Dave Wojcik's tenure.

Basor providing essential look, energy to SJSU

WHS alum closing out Sr. season

net.com

MEN'S BASKETBALL



TERRELL LLOYD/CONTRIBUTED

Watsonville High alum Ivo Basor shoots a free throw for the San Jose State University men's basketball team.

Basor takes on multiple roles

Watsonville native key to Spartans' scout team

By SJSU Athletics

SACO would like to congratulate all of the great accomplishments that our members have achieved during the past scholastic year. We wish you the best in all of your new endeavors.

2016 SACO High School Scholarships Recipients

Slavic American Cultural Organization 2016 Scholarship Recipients

Ella Arnerich

Aptos High School
University of California, Santa Barbara
Parents: John and Kim Arnerich
Grandparents: James "Jim" and Mary Sheehy Arnerich
Great Grandparents: John and Ella Arnerich
Brac, Croatia

Jade Hurley

Aptos High School
George Washington University, Washington, D.C.
Parents: Kean and Sheila Hurley
Grandparents: Wallace and Rayma Lettunich Hurley
Great Grandparents: Prosper and Mildred Bardmas Lettunich
Great Great Grandparents: Martin and Grace Mengola Lettunich
Konavle, Croatia

Mikaela Inman

Scotts Valley High School
University of California, Davis
Parents: Jeff and Mindy Inman
Grandparents: Cliff and Margaret (Miloslavich) Mills Inman
Great Grandparents: Frank and Jenny Scorer (Miloslavich) Mills
Croatia

Adrienne Menduno-Ortbals

Harbor High School, Santa Cruz
Ventura Community College
Parents: Inara Menduno and John Ortvals
Grandmother: Margaret Pevec Menduno
Great Grandparents: William and Alma Jerancic Pevec
Great Great Grandparents: Frank and Barbara "Betty" Grill Jerancic
Slovenia

Luke Frost

Aptos High School
University of California, Santa Barbara
Parents: Paul and Cindy Frost
Grandparents: Wayne and Lynn Lettis Clough
Great Grandfather: Frank Lettis
Konavle, Croatia

Dominique Mekis

Santa Cruz High School
San Diego State University
Parents: Paul and Julie Mekis and Cindy Mekis
Grandparents: Andrew and Audrey Mekis
Great Grandparents: Marko and Kate Korach Mekis
Konavle, Croatia

Andrew "Drew" Kreeft

St. Francis High School, Watsonville
University of California, Los Angeles
Parents: Andrew and Mimi Arnerich Kreeft
Grandparents: James "Jim" and Mary Sheehy Arnerich
Great Grandparents: John and Ella Arnerich
Brac, Croatia

Please join us in congratulating them all at our upcoming July Picnic on Sunday, July 10, 2016!

Language Corner

By: John Basor
Teacher, Watsonville/Aptos Adult Education

Unlike English, Croatian has no silent letters. Almost every letter is pronounced as it is written, i.e. one grapheme = one phoneme. Each vowel can be either short or long.

Numbers, Days, Months and Phrases

zero	nula	Please	Molim
one	jedan	Thank you	Hvala
two	dva	You're welcome	Nema na čemu
three	tri	Excuse me	Oprostite
four	četiri	Sorry	Pardon
five	pet	My name is...	Zovem se...
six	šest	What is your name?	Vaše ime?
seven	sedam	Pleased to meet you.	Drago mi je.
eight	osam	Do you speak English?	Govorite li engleski?
nine	devet	I do not speak Croatian.	Ne govorim hrvatski.
		I understand.	Razumijem
		I do not understand.	Ne razumijem.
		Where is the...?	Gdje je...?

Monday	ponedjeljak
Tuesday	utorak
Wednesday	srijeda
Thursday	četvrtak
Friday	petak
Saturday	subota
Sunday	nedjelja

January	siječanj
February	veljača
March	veljača
April	travanj
May	svibanj
June	lipanj
July	srpanj
August	kolovoz
September	rujan
October	listopad
November	studen
December	prosinac





All contributions are tax deductible with the meaning of Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code Federal Tax I.D.#94-2885274

SLAVIC AMERICAN CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

P.O. BOX 226

WATSONVILLE, CA 95077

A Non-Profit, Non-Religious &

Non-Political Organization

Established in 1979

MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS

members and the public are welcome!

The SACO Board of Directors currently meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month at the Driscoll Strawberry Assoc. office located on Westridge Drive, Building #300, Watsonville, CA from 7:00-9:00 PM. We hope to see you there!

SACO Board of Directors

2016-2018

President: Judy Hager

judyhager@earthlink.net; (831)438-2188

Vice-President: Betty Bobeda

bobeda@sbcglobal.net

Secretary: Kerry Stringari

gigo@baymoon.com

Treasurer: Susan Radin Gallagher

suzgalla@aol.com

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bulich@sbcglobal.net

Kalifornski Editor:

GeriAnne Solano Simmons

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Search for us at:
Slavic American Cultural
Organization
on Facebook!

SACO's (formerly "YACO") HISTORY



Since 1979

YACO

10th Anniversary

1979 - 1989

YACO's First Decade

by

Andy Gulerunovich

1979

Our club attracted new members quickly. Interest was very high amongst our people so YACO instituted a newsletter, *THE KALIFORNSKI*, which proved instrumental in getting our club off the ground. Interesting and informative articles were provided by many members who made trips to the old country. Contributors included: Pete and Margaret Biskup, Lillian Nielsen, Cindy Meidl, and John Basor.

Potlucks were held, accompanied by raffles, and our country store sold a wide variety of items which helped our treasury. We also held a flea market and rummage sale.

Naida Nicholas volunteered to chair the Choral and Dance committee. Our kolo class was very successful at the outset, while efforts to form a chorus proved more difficult at first.

Cultural highlights of the year were the bus trip we organized to Carmel for the Abrasevic folk dance performance, our donation of a sizable collection of books on Yugoslavia to the Watsonville Public Library, and our first Christmas party.

Patricia Gospodnetich Solano has been kind enough to share the former YACO's 10th Anniversary Commemorative Book with us. We will publish excerpts from the book in future issues. Please Enjoy!